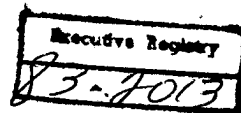


THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



# CABINET AFFAIRS STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/12/83 NUMBER: 118620CA DUE BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBJECT: Issue Alert: Recovery Scorecard

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman ( <i>For WH Staffing</i> )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenkins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Counsellor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCCT/Gunn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CEQ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCEA/Porter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OSTP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCFA/Boggs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCHR/Carleson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCLP/Uhlmann	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCMA/Bledsoe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCNRE/Boggs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: The attached Issue Alert is for your use in speeches or written materials.



RETURN TO:

☐ Craig L. Fuller  
Assistant to the President  
for Cabinet Affairs  
456-2823

☒ Becky Norton Dunlop  
Director, Office of  
Cabinet Affairs  
456-2800

L-299



White House Office of Policy Information

# ISSUE ALERT

Washington, DC

Number 11

April 8, 1983

## RECOVERY SCORECARD

### Background

A serious recession began in July 1981, three months before the President's Economic Recovery Program took effect. In a real sense, however, the country had been in recession since 1979, with the economy sagging under the weight of uncontrolled federal spending and taxing.

President Reagan entered office intent on reversing this trend, and restoring the economy to permanent health. By October 1981, many of the essentials of his program were in place and just 18 months later, as this Issue Alert documents, his program is succeeding -- on all fronts.

### Analysis

<u>INDICATOR (1983)</u>	<u>PROGRESS</u>
o <u>Auto Production (Feb.)</u>	Up <u>53%</u> from a year ago.
o <u>Capacity Utilization (Feb.)</u>	Up to <u>68.5%</u> , the third consecutive monthly increase.
o <u>Consumer Confidence (Mar.)</u>	Rose to <u>76.5%</u> , for the best monthly gain in 9 years, up from 58% in December 1982, and 59% last fall. A Washington Post-ABC News poll shows that <u>39%</u> of those polled feel the economy is getting better. This compares to 18% in January.

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o Durable Goods:

- Orders (Feb.) Up in 3 of last 4 months, following sharp declines in the previous 15 months.
- Sales (Feb.) Up 7.5% over February 1982.

o Housing:

- Building Starts (Feb.) At 1.8 million annual rate, up 93% from a year ago.
- Building Permits (Feb.) At 1.5 million annual rate, up 89% from a year ago.
- Construction Spending (Feb.) Up 12.7% from a year ago.
- Existing Home Sales (Feb.) At 2.5 million units, up 24% compared to a year ago.
- New Home Sales (Feb.) Up 49% over the February 1982 level. Through the first 2 months of 1983, new home sales were 51% higher than the same period in 1982.
- Inventory of Unsold Homes (Feb.) 5.7 months, lowest since March 1977.

o Inflation (Feb.)

- Consumer Price Index (Feb.) 3.5% over February 1982, sharply down from 12.4% in 1980; at 0.4% for last 6 months.
- Producer Price Index (Feb.) 2.1% over February 1982; essentially flat in recent months; sharp contrast from 13.5% for comparable period in 1980.

o Interest Rates:

- Prime (Mar.) 10.5% -- lowest in 3-1/2 years vs. 16.5% in March 1982. Prime rose from 6.25% to 21.5% under Carter Administration.

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-- T-Bills -- 90-day  
(Mar.)

8.3% now compared to 13.5%  
in February 1982.

-- T-Bonds -- 30-year  
(Mar.)

10.6% vs. 13.0% in February  
1982.

-- Mortgage rates (Mar.)

Fell to 13.35% in March, the  
eighth straight monthly  
decline, reaching its lowest  
level since September 1980.

o Leading Indicators (Feb.)

Up 1.4% in February,  
following a 3.5% jump in  
January (the largest 1-month  
gain in 33 years). Up in  
each of the last 6 months.

o Retail Sales (Feb.)

Up 4.2% from a year ago.

o Unemployment

-- Unemployment rate  
(Mar.)

At 10.3%, down 0.1  
percentage point from  
February, and a full  
half-point less than  
recession high of 10.8%.

-- Jobless claims  
(Mar. 19)

At 485,000, are down more  
than 200,000 from their peak  
in early October, 1982.

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